

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS

Week Ending September 20, 1987

Issue: 28-87

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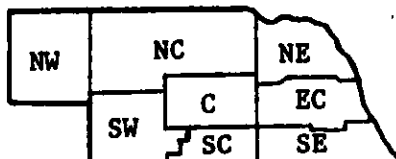
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National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
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WEATHER

Temperatures averaged two degrees below normal for the week. Precipitation occurred the first half of the week with amounts averaging around .50 inch in the northwest up to 2.50 inches northeast.

GENERAL

Fall crop maturity continues to advance across the State. Rain and cooler temperatures have slowed ripening, but progress remains well ahead of normal. Corn silage harvest continued in many areas between rain showers as did harvest of other forage crops. Dry bean harvest continued in western Nebraska. Sugar beet digging began in a few fields of the Panhandle. Preparation for corn, sorghum and soybean grain harvest continues. The number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.6 days for the State.

Topsoil moisture supplies rated 75% adequate and 25% surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 12% short, 78% adequate and 10% surplus. Last year, topsoil moisture rated 4% short, 41% adequate and 55% surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 4% short, 72% adequate and 24% surplus.

CROPS

Corn condition rated 1% poor, 7% fair, 74% good and 18% excellent. Ninety-seven percent of the irrigated crop rated good to excellent while 83% of the dryland crop had the same rating. Virtually all the crop is past the dent stage. Nearly 70% was mature, equal to last year but greatly ahead of the 47% average. Harvest moved to 5%, despite rain delays, compared to 3% last year and 2% average. High

CROPS (Cont.)

moisture content was still evident in the harvested acres. Stalk breakage due to corn borers is a problem in some east central and northeast counties.

Soybean condition rated 10% fair, 81% good and 9% excellent. Leaves were turning color on 95% of the crop compared to 86% last year and a 68% average. Forty-five percent of the leaves have dropped compared to 40% in 1986 and 29% average. Harvest continues to creep forward on a limited basis with 2% combined, double last year but equal to the average.

Sorghum condition rated 4% fair, 73% good and 23% excellent. Sorghum turning color stood at 97% compared to 96% last year and 82% average. Maturity spread to half the acreage compared to 46% in 1986 and 30% average. Grain harvest has just begun with 4% out, ahead of a 1% average.

Winter wheat seeding progressed to 70% complete, a full week ahead of last year and the average, both at 55%. Emergence, at 35%, is slightly behind last year's 40% and the average of 38%. Heavy rain in some lowland areas will force replanting in southwest Nebraska.

Third cutting of alfalfa hay reached 95%, equal to last year and the average. Poor drying conditions limited harvest progress. The fourth cutting began in east central and central counties.

LIVESTOCK

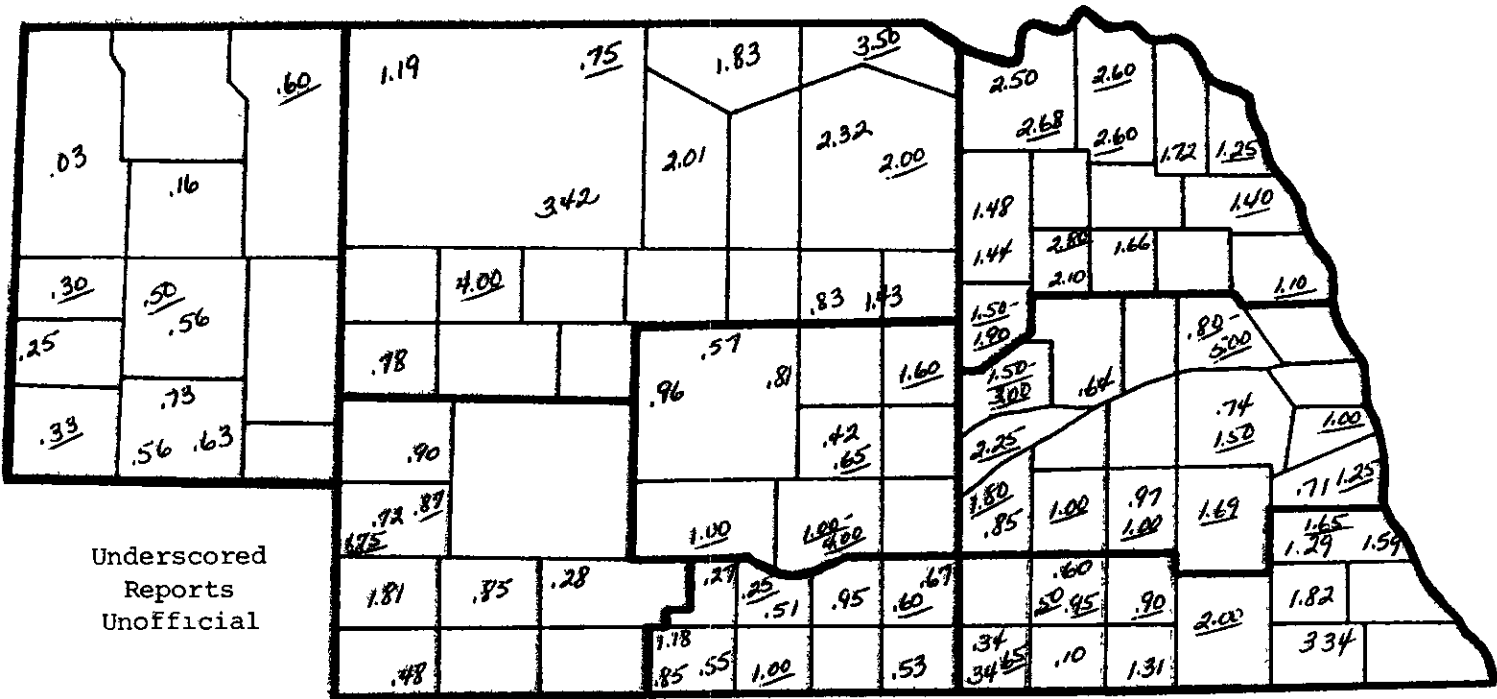
Pasture and range feed supplies rated mostly adequate. Muddy conditions exist in some feedlots due to recent rains. The rains help sustain grasses a bit longer than normal in some areas. Weaning and branding of calves continued.

Precipitation, April 1 - September 18, 1987

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week42	1.73	1.82	.69	.78	.84	.69	1.19
Total since April 1	12.52	15.28	15.22	16.08	19.95	15.48	17.27	23.36
Normal since April 1	13.24	15.91	18.91	17.56	20.66	14.76	18.02	22.22

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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1987



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1987

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	85	29	56	--	.07
	Scottsbluff	77	34	56	-5	.41
	Sidney	77	34	57	--	.28
NC	Ord	77	35	59	--	1.98
	Valentine	81	35	58	-3	.74
NE	Norfolk	84	45	61	-2	2.81
	Sioux City	86	46	62	-2	1.34
CEN	Grand Island	83	41	62	-2	.86
EC	Lincoln	82	46	65	0	1.25
	Omaha	81	46	63	-1	.66
SW	Imperial	83	38	60	--	1.20
	North Platte	83	34	59	-2	.52

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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